

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Further, I do not understand your decision to allow it under the auspices of the 1st amendment, paying no attention to the fact that they contribute 97% of donations to the RNC and this would qualify as an "in-kind" donation. At the very least, you should require them to play "Going Upriver" directly after, in the interests of fairness in journalism.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Please don't be cowed by special interests, or your own. You know if the shoe was on the other foot, you would do something. Restore America's faith that media "news" isn't to be a tool for propaganda. Many people are thinking that the entire government is corrupt and self serving- help prove it is not so. Help restore our faith in the government, and your agency. Thank you.